

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. The Applicant hereby confirms the election with traverse of claims 8 – 19. In the accompanying amendment, claims 8 and 15 have been amended. Claims 9, 14, and 16 - 19 have been cancelled and new claims 25 – 32 have been added. Support for the amendment may be found in the specification, the drawings and the claims as originally filed. On account of the foregoing listed support for the amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments do not add new matter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 15 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular the Examiner has stated that:

“In claim 15, the phrase “the surface” is indefinite, as it is unclear whether this “surface” is referring to the first surface or the second surface, or both? Clarification is required.”

(Office Action mailed 9/24/02, page 3)

In response, the Applicant has amended claim 15 to make it clear that the surface refers to both the first surface and the second surface. It is respectfully submitted that claim 15 now amended complies with 35 USC § 112, second paragraph and that the rejection under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 10, 13, and 14 – 19 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Greenlee (US 4431691).

Claim 8 as amended includes the following limitations:

A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:
a back plate glass;

a substrate glass;
a bead of an adhesive mixed with a zeolite applied between the back plate glass and the substrate glass; and
a mirror processed on the substrate glass.

(Amended claim 8, emphasis added)

In paragraph 10 of the Office Action dated 9/24/02, the Examiner has indicated that Claim 9 would be allowable if incorporated into its dependent-based claim. The amendment to claim 8 incorporates the limitation of claim 9, now cancelled, into claim 8. On this basis, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8, as amended, is allowable.

New claim 25 includes the following limitations:

A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:
a back plate glass;
a substrate glass; and
a bead of an adhesive mixed with zeolites of different pore sizes applied between the back plate glass and the substrate glass, wherein the zeolites of different pore sizes are selected to absorb molecules of different diameters.

(New claim 25, emphasis added)

Greenlee discloses the use of a desiccant material which is incorporated within a sealant matrix which is used to form a micro-glazed insulating unit (Column 6, lines 10 – 25). While Greenlee discloses that the desiccant material may be a zeolite. Greenlee fails to teach or suggest that the zeolites have different pore sizes selected to absorb molecules of different diameters, as it is recited in claim 25. Thus, Greenlee does not teach or suggest all limitations of claim 25 and therefore cannot render claim 25 obvious.

Given that claims 26 – 27 depend on claim 25, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are often not obvious in view of Greenlee.

Claim 29 includes the following limitations:

A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:

a back plate glass;

a substrate glass; and

a bead of an adhesive mixed with a zeolite applied between the back plate glass and the substrate glass, wherein the zeolite is selected to have a pore size which allows the zeolite to absorb a contaminant gas that is outgassed by components of the package.

(New claim 29, emphasis added)

Greenlee teaches the use of a desiccant in a sealant matrix to absorb moisture and organic materials from a sealed air pocket (Column1, lines 35 – 40). However, Greenlee fails to teach or suggest that the zeolite is selected to have a pore size which allows the zeolite to absorb a contaminant gas that is outgassed by components of the package. Thus, Greenlee fails to teach or suggest all limitations of claim 29, accordingly cannot render claim 29 obvious.

Further, given that claims 30 - 32 depend on claim 29, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not rendered obvious by Greenlee.

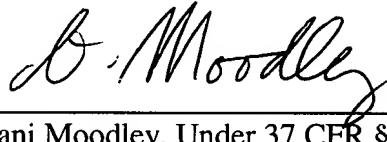
It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, all rejections have been overcome. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

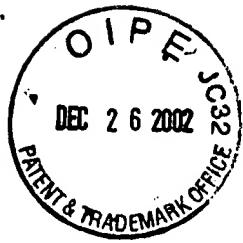
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Dated: 12/19/, 2002



Vani Moodley, Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 9, 14, and 16 – 19 have been canceled.

Claims 25 – 32 have been added.

8. (Amended) A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:
a back plate glass;
a substrate glass; [and]
a bead of an adhesive mixed with a zeolite applied between the back plate glass and the
substrate glass[.]; and
a mirror processed on the substrate glass.

15. (Amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the [surface can include] first and second
surfaces are selected from the group consisting of a glass surface, a metal surface, a polymer
surface, a plastic surface, an alloy surface, and a ceramic surface[, or a combination thereof].

25. (New) A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:
a back plate glass;
a substrate glass; and
a bead of an adhesive mixed with zeolites of different pore sizes applied between the
back plate glass and the substrate glass, wherein the zeolites of different pore sizes are selected to
absorb molecules of different diameters.

26. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 25, wherein
some of the zeolites have a pore size to allow absorption of molecules having a diameter of up to
ten angstroms.

27. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 25, wherein
some of the zeolites have a pore size to allow absorption of molecules having a diameter of less
than two angstroms.

28. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 25, wherein the pore sizes of some of the zeolites allow absorption of nitrogen and carbon dioxide molecules.
29. (New) A micro-electromechanical systems based device package comprising:
a back plate glass;
a substrate glass; and
a bead of an adhesive mixed with a zeolite applied between the back plate glass and the substrate glass, wherein the zeolite is selected to have a pore size which allows the zeolite to absorb a contaminant gas that is outgassed by components of the package.
30. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 29, wherein the zeolite has a pore size that allows it to absorb aromatic branched-chain hydrocarbons.
31. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 29, wherein the zeolite has a pore size that allows it to absorb hydrogen molecules.
32. (New) The micro-electromechanical systems based device package of claim 29, wherein the zeolite has a pore size that allows it to absorb nitrogen and carbon dioxide molecules.